

Filed for intro on 03/27/2000

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 569  
By Patton

A RESOLUTION to recognize the many contributions of the  
Tennessee State Guard to the state of  
Tennessee and its citizens.

WHEREAS, when needed, the Tennessee State Guard is always there; it embodies the  
natural "volunteer" instinct of most Tennesseans and "all" Tennessee State Guardsmen; and

WHEREAS, in times of natural or manmade disasters, times of need for the families of  
Tennessee National Guardsmen, times of need for veterans, and when security is needed for  
appropriate celebrations and commemorations, the Tennessee State Guard is always there;  
and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State Guard provides military funerals throughout the state  
to honor deserving World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam Veterans as well as other veterans  
who have served honorably during the Cold War; and

WHEREAS, the State Guard is present on Veteran's Day and Memorial Day to celebrate  
and recognize both our living and deceased veterans including those who made the supreme  
sacrifice during combat with the enemy. The State Guard also recognizes those people who

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have served Tennessee during statewide natural and manmade disasters, and other tragic events; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State Guard serves the members of the Tennessee National Guard and their families when the Guard is called to active duty or to annual training outside their armories throughout the state. The State Guard is there to secure the armories, provide family assistance and watch over personal and unit property left behind; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State Guard was available and reacted immediately when fire destroyed a large hotel that contained many permanent residents and guests. The State Guard set up relief facilities and took immediate action to secure information on residents and their status; and

WHEREAS, the State Guard performed the mission of the local Red Cross during a disaster in which the local Red Cross office was destroyed in the fire; and

WHEREAS, during floods and other natural disasters, the State Guard is well trained in helping citizens during these natural tragedies; people are moved, property is guarded and information is passed to relieve the pressure on the local emergency units; and

WHEREAS, the State Guard is ready and available to respond to such natural disasters as massive snowfall, floods, water damage, high winds, tornadoes, or ice storms; and

WHEREAS, for many years the Tennessee State Guard has honored our veterans and military personnel at the national, state and local levels during holidays and commemorative events. Flags are placed on grave sites and at proper locations during patriotic holidays, and color guards are provided for parades and other events; and

WHEREAS, members of the Tennessee State Guard often serve as guest speakers and masters of ceremonies as they are well versed in the traditions of the military and military type ceremonies. Many are highly decorated veterans while others are volunteers with little military experience, except service to the state of Tennessee. Honor Guards are used to show pride in the military tradition and to honor deceased veterans, VIPs, and others; and

WHEREAS, it is not unusual to see state guardsmen collecting money for various charities and helping children and families in need, particularly at Christmas, when volunteers work to ensure that our children can enjoy a festive and bright holiday season; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee State Guard also assisted local clubs and organizations in reenactments of Civil War battles and other military events important to our history dating back to pre-Revolutionary days; and

WHEREAS, traffic control and other duties have been provided to assist organizations in helping to those in need. The Tennessee State Guard works with youth organizations to demonstrate to them the honor of military tradition; and

WHEREAS, through their many activities and duties, the volunteers of the Tennessee State Guard give freely of their time and effort to make the state of Tennessee a better, safer, and more patriotic place to live and work; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That this General Assembly recognizes the many valuable services and volunteer efforts contributed to this state and its citizens by the men and women of the Tennessee State Guard and offers our profound gratitude for their many contributions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.